

**NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**  
**PERINATAL SPECIALISTS OF KANSAS CITY**  
This Notice of Privacy Practices is effective as of September 15, 2021.

**THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.**

**UNDERSTANDING YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION -- HOW IT IS USED AND HOW IT MAY BE SHARED WITH OTHERS:** There are laws requiring that we maintain the privacy and security of your health information. They tell us how we may use and disclose health information. Those laws also require that we make a copy of this Notice available to you. This Notice describes how we use and disclose your health information, and your rights pertaining to that information.

**WHAT IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS NOTICE OR NEED TO EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS?** If you do not understand this Notice or what it says about how we may use your health information, or would like to exercise any of your rights set forth below, please contact our Practice Manager at 913-291-0069

**WHAT IS YOUR HEALTH RECORD OR HEALTH INFORMATION?** When you go to a hospital, doctor, or other health care provider, a record is made that documents your treatment. This record will have information about your illnesses, your injuries, signs of illness, exams, laboratory results, treatment given to you, and notes about what might need to be done at a later date. Your health information could contain all kinds of information about your health problems. Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City keeps this health information and can use this information in many ways. What we do with your health information and how we can use and share this information is what the rest of this Notice describes.

**YOUR RIGHTS.** When it comes to your health information, you have certain rights. This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

**\*Get an Electronic or Paper Copy of Your Medical Record.** You have the right to inspect and obtain a paper or electronic copy of your medical record and other health information we have about you. Ask us how to do this. Generally, if you want to see your health information and/or get a copy of your health information, you must make a request to the Contact Person in writing. However, alternative arrangements may be made for individuals unable to make a request in writing. You may request that your information be provided in an electronic format and we will provide the information to you in the form and format you request, if it is readily producible. If we cannot readily produce the records in the form and format you request, we can work together to agree on an appropriate electronic format. You may also direct us to transmit your health information in paper or electronic format to a third party. If you direct us to transmit your information to a third party, we will do so, provided your signed, written direction clearly identifies the designated third party and where to send the information. We will provide a copy or a summary of your health information, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee. We may deny your request to inspect

or obtain a copy in certain limited circumstances. If we refuse access, we will tell you in writing within 30 days of your request, and in some circumstances, you may ask that a neutral person review the refusal.

**\*Ask Us to Correct Your Medical Record.** You can ask us to correct health information about you that you think is incorrect or incomplete for as long as we have it. If you want to make a change to your health information, you must give a good reason for the change. If you do not put your request for a change in writing and give a good reason, we may not allow the change to be made. We may also refuse your request for change for the following reasons: (1) the information was not created by Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City; (2) it is not a part of the health information kept by or for Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City; (3) it is not information you are permitted to see or copy; or (4) it is accurate and complete. If we say “no” to your request, we’ll tell you why in writing within 60 days.

**\*Get a List of Those With Whom We’ve Shared Information.** You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we’ve shared your health information for 6 years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why. We will include all the disclosures except for those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (for example, any disclosures you asked us to make). To request a list, you must write a request to Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City. You have to include a time period in your request. We only need to provide this information for specified time periods. You should tell us in what form you want the list (paper copy, electronically, or some other form). You can have one list each year at no cost. You may be charged a reasonable, cost-based fee for any additional lists requested within 12 months.

**\*Ask Us to Limit What we Use or Share.** You have the right to ask that we restrict or limit some part of your health information. You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations. We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say “no” if it would affect your care. If you pay for a service or health care item out-of-pocket in full, you can ask us not to share that information for the purpose of payment or our operations with your health insurer. We will say “yes” unless a law requires us to share that information. *You must be aware that when your request for restriction has not been made prior to submission of Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City’s payment request to the third-party payer, it may not be possible to facilitate the requested restriction. If you wish to restrict the submission of health information to your third-party payer, you should make that request prior to the commencement of treatment.* All requests for restriction should be directed in writing to the Contact Person. We will notify you in writing within 30 days as to whether your request is granted or denied.

**\*Request Confidential Communications.** You have the right to ask that we communicate with you about your health information only in a certain way or at a certain location. An example would be asking that you only be contacted by us at work or only by mail, or you may prefer that we communicate with you via unencrypted email or text messaging. There are risks associated with communications via unencrypted email or text messaging, for example, a third party could intercept the email or text message in transmission. To ask for privacy in communications, you must make your request in writing to Perinatal Specialists of Kansas

City. We will attempt to grant all reasonable requests and although you are not required to give reasons for your request, we may ask you. Be sure to be specific in your request about how and where you wish to be contacted.

**\*Receive Notice if Your Health Information is Breached.** A “breach” occurs when your health information is acquired, assessed, used, or disclosed in a manner not permitted by HIPAA which compromises the privacy or security of your information. Not all types of breaches require notice, but if notice is required, we will provide such notification without unreasonable delay, but in no case, later than 60 days after we discover the breach.

**\*Get a Copy of This Privacy Notice.** A copy of this Notice is available to you at your request, and you have a right to a copy of this Notice at any time. Even if you have agreed to receive this Notice electronically, you may request a paper copy of it. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly. You may obtain a copy of this notice at [www.kcperinatal.com](http://www.kcperinatal.com)

**\*Choose Someone to Act for You.** If you have given someone a durable health care power of attorney that is currently in effect or if someone is your legal guardian, that person may exercise your rights and make choices about your health information. We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

**\*File a Complaint If You Feel Your Rights Are Violated.** You can file a complaint if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us using the contact information on Page 1. You can also file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting [www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/). We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

**OUR USES AND DISCLOSURES.** We typically use or share your health information in the following ways:

**\*For Treatment.** We may use your health information to provide you with medical treatment or services. We may give your health information to other doctors, nurses, technicians, medical students, or other staff personnel who are involved in taking care of you. For example, a doctor treating you for a broken bone may need to know if you have diabetes because diabetes may slow the healing process. In addition, the doctor may need to tell the dietitian if you have diabetes so that we can arrange for meals. Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City may also request information from your health care providers outside the clinic to assist with your care. For example, we may request and use your prescription medication history from other health care providers or third-party pharmacy benefit payers for treatment purposes. We also may provide access to and/or disclose your health information to health care providers outside the clinic who may be involved in your treatment while you are in the clinic or after you leave the clinic.

**\*For Payment.** We may use and disclose your health information about the treatment you receive at Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City to bill and get payment from individuals, health plans, or other entities. For example, we may give information to your health insurance plan information about your surgery so that your plan will pay for your services. We may have to

give information to your health plan before your surgery in order to get an authorization so your plan will pay for the surgery. However, if you pay out of pocket for your treatment and make a specific request that we not send information to your health plan, we will not send that information to your insurance plan except under certain circumstances. We may also use and disclose your health information to obtain payment from third parties that may be responsible for the costs of your treatment, such as family members.

**\*For Health Care Operations.** We may use and disclose your health information to operate Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City, improve your care, and contact you when necessary. For example, we may use your health information to see how well our staff takes care of you. We may combine your health information with other patients' information to decide on additional services we should offer to our patients and to see if new treatments really work. We may remove information from your health information so others who look at your health information cannot see your name. Here are some other examples of how we may use and disclose your health information for our health care operations: to see how well we are doing in helping our patients (including investigation of complaints); to help reduce health care costs; to develop questionnaires and surveys; to help with care management; for training purposes; and to conduct cost management and business planning activities and certain marketing and research activities. We may disclose your health information to other health care providers and entities to assist in their health care operations under certain circumstances.

**\*For Contact Information.** We may use and disclose your contact information (landline or cellular phone numbers, email address). Some examples of how we may use your contact information include appointment reminders and to provide you with notification of other health-related benefits and services, all of which are discussed in more detail below. By providing us with your contact information, you give your consent that we may use it. We may contact you by the following means (even if we initiate contact using an automated telephone dialing system (ATDS) and/or an artificial or prerecorded voice): (1) paging system; (2) cellular telephone service; (3) landline; (4) text message; (5) email message; or (6) facsimile. If you want to limit these communications to a specific telephone number or numbers, you need to request that only a designated number or numbers be used for these purposes. If you inform us that you do not want to receive such communications, we will stop sending these communications to you.

**\*Business Associates.** We may disclose your health information to our contracted business associates in order to carry out specific tasks related to Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City's health care operations. When we do this, the business associate agrees in the contract to protect your health information and to use and disclose such health information only to the extent Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City would be able to do so.

**\*Appointment Reminders; Telephone and Email Messages.** We may use and disclose your health information to contact you and remind you of an appointment at our clinic. This may include contacting you with the date, time, and location of your appointment by (1) sending a reminder card to the most recent mailing address we have

for you; (2) sending an email message to the most recent email address we have for you if you have requested we communicate by email; (3) calling the most recent telephone number we have available and, if necessary, leaving a voicemail message or a message on your answering machine, or a message with a person, other than you, who answers your telephone unless you tell us not to, or (4) other means of communication (e.g., patient portal, text messaging, etc.).

**\*Treatment Alternatives**. We may use or disclose your health information to let you know about treatments that may be offered to you so you can make good choices about your health care.

**\*Health-Related Benefits and Services**. We may use and disclose health information to tell you about health benefits or services that may be of interest to you.

**YOUR CHOICES.** For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share. If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions.

**(1) *IN THESE CASES, YOU HAVE BOTH THE RIGHT AND CHOICE TO TELL US TO:***

**\*Share Information with Your Family, Close Friends, or Others Involved in Your Care; Disaster Relief**. We may disclose your location or general condition to family members, your personal representative, or another person identified by you. If any of these individuals are involved in your care or payment for your care, we may also disclose information as is directly relevant to their involvement. If you are not able to tell us a preference, for example, if you are unconscious, incapacitated, in an emergency situation, or unavailable, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interests. Also, we may disclose your health information as part of a disaster relief effort so your family knows about your condition, status, and location.

**\*Contact You for Fund-raising Activities**. We may use and disclose your health information, including your name, address or other contact information: age, insurance status, gender, date of birth, department of service, treating physician, and outcome information for Fund-raising purposes. We may contact you to help our clinic raise money. We may also disclose your health information to a foundation, so it can help the clinic raise money. In the case of Fund-raising, if you do not want the clinic to contact you for Fund-raising efforts, you must notify the Contact Person using the contact information on Page 1.

**(2) *IN THESE CASES, WE NEVER SHARE YOUR INFORMATION UNLESS YOU GIVE US WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION:***

**\*Marketing, Sale, and Psychotherapy Notes**. Most uses and disclosures of psychotherapy notes, uses and disclosures for marketing purposes, and uses and disclosures that constitute a sale of your health information require your authorization.

**\*Psychotherapy Notes.** Psychotherapy notes are a particular type of health information. Mental Health records generally are not considered psychotherapy notes. Your authorization is necessary for us to disclose psychotherapy notes.

**\*Marketing and Sale of Health Information.** There are some circumstances when we may directly or indirectly receive a financial (e.g., monetary payment) or non-financial (e.g., in-kind item or service) benefit from a use or disclosure of your health information. Your authorization is necessary for us to sell your health information. Your authorization is also necessary for some marketing uses of your health information.

**ADDITIONAL WAYS WE USE OR SHARE YOUR HEALTH INFORMATION.** We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways – usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet certain conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes.

**\*Research.** Under certain circumstances, we may use and disclose your health information for medical research. All research projects, however, are subject to a special approval process. Before we use or disclose your health information for research, the project will have been approved.

**\*As Required by Law.** We will share health information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we're complying with federal privacy law. Things like wounds from weapons, abuse, communicable diseases, and neglect are examples of such information and we do not need your permission to disclose this information.

**\*To Avoid a Serious Threat to Health or Safety.** We may use or disclose your health information when necessary to reduce or prevent a serious threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of another individual or the public. Under these circumstances, we will only make disclosures to a person or organization able to help prevent the threat.

**\*Organ and Tissue Donation.** If you are an organ donor, we may disclose your health information to people who deal with organ collection, eye or tissue transplants, or to a donation bank. We give your information to these people to make sure organ or tissue donation or transplants can be made.

**\*Military and Veterans.** If you are a member of the armed forces, we may disclose your health information as required by those military authorities in command. If you are a member of the military of another country, we may release your health information to the authority in command in your country.

**\*Worker's Compensation.** If you are involved in an injury that happens while you are at work, we may have to disclose your health information so your medical bills can be paid by your employer. Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City may disclose your health information for worker's compensation and similar programs to the extent necessary to comply with the law.

**\*Public Health Risks.** We may disclose your health information without your permission if there is a danger to the public's health. Some general examples of these dangers include: to avoid disease, injury or disability; to report births and deaths; to report child abuse and neglect; to report reactions to drugs and other health products; to report a recall of health products or medications; to tell a person he/she has been exposed to a disease or may get a disease or spread the disease; to tell a government authority if we believe an adult patient has been abused, neglected, or the victim of violence, however, we will only disclose this information if the patient agrees or we are required or authorized by law to disclose this information; to let employers know about a workplace illness or workplace safety; and/or to report trauma injury to the state. We may also, with consent, give immunization information to a school.

**\*Health Oversight Activities.** We may disclose your health information without your permission to a special group who checks up on hospitals to make sure they are following the rules. These special groups investigate, inspect, and license hospitals. This is necessary for our government to know about our hospitals and that they are following the rules and the laws.

**\*Lawsuits and Disputes.** We may disclose your health information if you are involved in a lawsuit or dispute. If a court orders that we disclose your health information, even if you are not involved in a lawsuit or dispute, we may also disclose your health information. Other reasons that may cause us to release your health information would be if there is an order to appear in court, a discovery request, or other legal reason by someone else involved in a dispute. There must be an effort made to tell you about this request or an order to make sure that the information they want is protected.

**\*Law Enforcement.** We may disclose your health information if asked for by a police official for the following reasons: a court order, subpoena, warrant, or summons; to find a suspect, fugitive, witness, or missing person; regarding a crime victim, if we obtain the person's agreement, or, under certain circumstances, if we are unable to obtain the person's agreement; about a death we believe may be the result of a crime; about some crime that happens at the clinic; or in emergencies, to report a crime, the place where the crime happened, the victim of the crime, or the identity, description or whereabouts of the person who committed the crime.

**\*Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors.** We may disclose health information to a coroner or medical examiner to identify a person who has died or to determine the cause of death. We may also disclose health information to funeral directors so they can carry out their duties. We are required to protect your health information for fifty (50) years following your death.

**\*National Security and Intelligence Activities.** We may disclose your health information to federal authorities for intelligence, counter-intelligence, and other situations involving our national safety.

**\*Protective Services for the President and Others.** We may disclose health information about you to federal officials so they can protect the President or other officials or foreign heads of state or so they may conduct special investigations.

**\*Inmates.** If you are an inmate of a prison or placed under the charge of a law enforcement official, we may disclose your health information (1) to the prison to provide you with health care; (2) to protect the health and safety of you and others; or (3) for the safety of the prison.

## **OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.**

- \* We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your health information.
- \* We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- \* We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this Notice and give you a copy of it.
- \* We will not use or disclose your health information other than as described herein without your authorization. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind. If you revoke your authorization, it will not be effective for any uses and disclosures we have already made in reliance on your prior authorization.

**CHANGES TO THE TERMS OF THIS NOTICE.** We may change the terms of this Notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, in the clinic, and on Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City's website. You will find the date the Notice takes effect at the top of the first page below the title. You can get a copy of this Notice at any time by contacting the Contact Person listed above.

## **DISCRIMINATION IS AGAINST THE LAW**

Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
  - Qualified sign language interpreters
  - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
  - Qualified interpreters
  - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact our Practice Manager.



If you believe that Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with: the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 509F, HHH Building  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)  
Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx)。

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx)번으로 전화해 주십시오.

ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັຽຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທສ 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

ATTENTION : Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (ATS : 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

注意事項：日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY:1-xxx-xxx-xxxx) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (телетайп: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

توجه: اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx) تماس بگیرید.

PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

သတိပို့ရန် - အကယုၣ် သဠည ဝုမနွာစကား ကို ဝေပုဟပါက၊ ဘာသာစကား အကူအညီ၊ အခမဲ့၊ သင့်အကြံစီစဉ်ဆောင်ရွက်ပေးပါမည်။ ဖုန်းနံပါတ် 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx) သို့မူ ဝေခင့်ဆိုပါ။

LUS CEEV: Yog tias koj hais lus Hmoob, cov kev pab txog lus, muaj kev pab dawb rau koj. Hu rau 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

KUMBUKA: Ikiwa unazungumza Kiswahili, unaweza kupata, huduma za lugha, bila malipo. Piga simu 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx (TTY: 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx).

## **PATIENT RIGHTS**

Welcome to our Perinatal Specialists of Kansas City. We respect our patients' dignity and pride. This document will explain your patient rights and responsibilities. It is part of your patient registration and is an important part of your health care plan. If you have any questions, please contact the Practice Manager.

Our commitment to you, our patient, includes the following rights. We affirm that we will deliver high-quality health care to every patient without regard to: age, gender, disability, race, color, ancestry, citizenship, religion, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, health condition, marital status, veteran status, payment source or ability, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state, or local law.

### **CONSIDERATE AND RESPECTFUL CARE**

Our Considerate and Respectful Care Policy gives you the right to:

- Fair, high-quality, safe and professional care.
- Care regardless of color, race, religion, creed, etc.
- Consideration, respect, and recognition of you and your individuality.
- Treatment privacy including private and discreet consultation, exam, and care.
- Treatment in a safe environment.
- Not be undressed any longer than needed for the exam, test, procedure, or other reason.
- To wear appropriate personal clothing and religious or other symbolic items, as long as they do not interfere with your treatment or diagnostic procedures.

### **HEALTH STATUS AND CARE POLICY**

Our Health Status and Care Policy gives you the right to:

- Be informed of your health status in terms and/or language that you, your family, and caregivers can be expected to understand.
- Take part and be active in your care and treatment plan.
- Participate in decisions in your care, unless your physicians or others believe it is harmful to you.
- Know, be told, and understand:
  - risks, benefits, and side effects of all medicines and treatment procedures for your diagnoses.
  - alternative treatment options offered.
  - your procedure and to “give informed consent” before it begins.
  - possible outcomes of your care and treatment.
- When and if the clinic recommends other health care institutions:
  - to participate in your care.
  - to know who these other health care places are and what they will do.
  - to refuse their care.
- Get help from the physician and others for follow-up care, if available.
- To change providers or get a second opinion, including specialists at your request and expense.

## **DECISION MAKING AND NOTIFICATION POLICY**

Our Decision Making and Notification Policy gives you the right to:

- Choose a person to be your health care representative or decision-maker.
- Exclude those you do not want help from or to join in your care or decisions.
- Ask for, but not have the right to demand, services the clinic does not think are needed or appropriate.
- Refuse treatment.
- Be included in experimental research only with your written consent.
- Refuse experimental research including new drug and medical device investigations.
- Receive the information necessary to approve a treatment or procedure.
- Give consent to a procedure or treatment.

## **ACCESS TO SERVICES POLICY**

Our Access to Services Policy gives you the right to:

- Receive translator, interpreter, or other necessary services or devices to help you communicate with the clinic in a timely manner.
- Bring a service animal except where prohibited pursuant to clinic policy.
- Have access to our facility buildings and grounds in compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, a law that stops discrimination against people with disabilities.
- Prompt and reasonable response to questions and requests for service.

## **ETHICAL DECISION POLICY**

Our Ethical Decision Policy gives you the right to:

- Talk to and join in with your physician about:
  - conflict resolutions.
  - withholding resuscitative services.
  - foregoing or withdrawing life sustaining care.
  - investigational study or clinical trials.
- Know that if your health care expert decides your refusal to accept treatment prevents you from getting the right care (as stated by its ethical and professional standards), it can end the relationship.

## **PROTECTIVE SERVICE POLICY**

Our Protective Service Policy gives you the right to:

- Receive available protective and advocacy services.
- Be given the clinic's policies and procedures for:
  - Initiation, review, resolution of patient complaints, including the address and phone number to file complaints.
- Discuss complaints, issues, or problems with your doctor and the Practice Administrator.
- File a complaint with the Department of Health or others with your concerns about patient abuse, neglect, misuse of your property at the clinic, other unresolved complaints, patient safety, and quality concerns.
- Have a fair review of alleged patient right violations.
- Receive, as offered by state law:
  - care and treatment for mental illness or development disability.

- all legal and civil rights as a citizen.
- Understand and expect emergency procedures without unneeded delay within clinic scope.
- Get needed information to approve a treatment or procedure.

### **PAYMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY**

Our Payment and Administrative Policy gives you the right to:

- Review your health care bill regardless of your ability to pay it or the payment source.
- Receive information about available financial resources.
- Know if the clinic, physicians, and other team members accept Medicare, the government's health insurance for those aged 65+ or disabled.
- Know and understand the Medicare charges for your services and treatment provided.
- Receive if you ask, with explanation, a reasonable estimate of your health care charges before treatment.
- To be free from any requirement to purchase drugs, or rent or purchase medical supplies or equipment from any particular source and also to receive patient choice in these type of decisions.

### **YOUR PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

You are an important and active member of your care plan. You have certain responsibilities to yourself and to your care team. In the spirit of shared trust and respect, we ask you to:

- Give true and complete information about your:
  - Health status;
  - Medical history;
  - Hospitalizations;
  - Medicines;
  - Other matters about your health; and
  - Contact information, family members and caregivers and other needed information.
- Let us know:
  - Any risks about your care;
  - Changes in your care, illness, or injury;
  - Safety concerns;
  - Violation of your patient rights;
  - If you understand your care plan and what we expect from you;
  - If you don't understand your care plan or its information; and
  - If you have or need to ask questions.
- Please:
  - Follow your care plan and instructions created by your physicians, nurses, or other health care team members.
  - Keep appointments and, if you cannot make your appointments, let us know at a minimum 24 hours before your appointment.
  - Be responsible for your actions if you refuse care or don't follow physician's orders.
  - Pay your health care bills in a timely manner.
  - Follow clinic procedures, rules, and regulations.
  - Be thoughtful of the rights of other patients and our staff.
  - Be respectful of yourself and our staff.

- Treat the physician and our health care staff with respect and consideration.
- Accept that inappropriate language or behavior is not tolerated and may be grounds for dismissal.
- Accept we may end our relationship if you do not follow your physician's orders or care plan.

**AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF HEALTH INFORMATION**

Patient's Legal Name: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (MI) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Full Name (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, authorize \_\_\_\_\_  
to disclose confidential health information from the above-named patient's health information to \_\_\_\_\_

for the following purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

The information to be disclosed is:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All PHI in record    | <input type="checkbox"/> History and Physical    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consult Report       | <input type="checkbox"/> Operative Report        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Progress Notes       | <input type="checkbox"/> Physician Order         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory           | <input type="checkbox"/> Imaging/Radiology       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Notes        | <input type="checkbox"/> Medication Record       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demographics         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rehabilitation Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Test/Therapy | <input type="checkbox"/> Itemized Bill/Claims    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____         |  |

for treatment dates of: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that my health information may contain information relating to: HIV, contagious diseases, psychiatric treatment, mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, or other conditions which may be specifically protected by law and I authorize disclosure of that information.

I understand that once my health information has been disclosed, it will no longer be subject to federal privacy regulations and may be redisclosed by the person receiving it.

I understand that I may refuse to sign this Authorization and that my treatment or payment for my treatment will not be affected if I do not sign this form unless my treatment includes research or the reason for my treatment is to disclose information to another person.

I understand that I may see and copy the information described on this form as provided by federal regulations, and that I will get a copy of this form after I sign it.

This authorization will expire on the following date or event: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I can revoke this authorization in writing but that any revocation is not effective for disclosures that have already been made. To revoke this authorization, I should contact:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I also authorize disclosure of the records upon presentation of a photocopy of this authorization.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Patient or Patient's Personal Representative**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Personal Representative's Relationship to Patient**